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ABSTRACT

An NxM optical switch is provided having a refractive element pivotably disposed between a reflector and multiple optical waveguides. The refractive element has parallel major surfaces facing the reflector and multiple optical waveguides, respectively. The refractive element may be pivoted so as to influence light signals from the multiple optical waveguides. Light exits the multiple optical waveguides and passes through the refractive element before striking the reflector. The refractive element alters the angle of incidence of the incident light signal. Upon reflection of the light signal from the reflector, the light passes back through the refractive element, is offset, and thereby is directed to a predetermined one of the multiple optical waveguides.